



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending October 24, 2010

## OVER HALF OF THE STATE’S CROPLAND VERY SHORT OF SOIL MOISTURE

A cold front moved through the state and brought a few isolated storms on Tuesday and Wednesday, but overall, farmers in Tennessee received below-average precipitation combined with above-average temperatures last week. Cotton and soybean harvest both advanced towards completion due to last week’s predominantly dry weather and remain about three weeks ahead of the five-year average progress. Farmers continued to seed winter wheat last week despite low soil moisture in most areas. By week’s end, producers had seeded 38 percent of this year’s wheat acreage, a figure in step with the average level for this time of year. Most of the state’s pasture land remained rated in poor to very poor condition at the end of last week, and cattle producers across Tennessee continued to feed hay as a result.

There were 7 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 53 percent very short, 32 percent short, and 15 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 52 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 17 percent adequate. Temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees above normal last week. Precipitation levels were below normal in East Tennessee and near normal in West Tennessee.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Cotton – Harvested	92	82	7	57	Pastures	40	31	21	8	0
Soybeans – Harvested	89	79	31	58						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	38	29	27	38						
Winter Wheat – Emerged	6	NA	6	12						

NA = Not Available

### County Agent Comments

*“The farmers in Fayette County were able to again make good progress with row crop harvest. We should be done by the end of October or the first of November. We did get a small rain on Tuesday, but just enough to stop harvest that afternoon. It picked back up the following day. Pastures are hurting so producers are feeding hay and ponds are losing a lot of water.”*

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

*“Harvest is far ahead of schedule due to extremely dry conditions. Yields are surprisingly good for cotton and soybeans. Pastures are done.”*

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

*“Farmers tell me it is the driest they have ever seen it here. There’s no pasture left.”*

Joseph Griffy, Stewart County

*“Drought conditions continue throughout the county. Fall crops and pastures desperately need rainfall for seed germination and for established cool-season crops.”*

David Cook, Davidson County

*“Pastures are practically bare, except for a few tough weeds. Bush-hogging continues. Hay is being fed to a large number of cattle.”*

David K. Glover, Smith County

*“Another week of no rain. Most folks are feeding hay to cattle. There are a few late soybeans to be combined, but most folks are done. Nurseries are having to water trees to dig B&B balls. Some folks are sowing lawns and pastures on the hope of rain.”*

J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

*“Small patches of frost are starting to show up in some parts of the county.”*

Anthony Carver, Grainger County

*“Pastures are going south fast. Rain is needed badly. Soybean harvest is near completion. Pond levels are getting low again.”*

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION  
For week ending: October 24, 2010 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending October 24, 2010				Current Week 10/24/10	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	86	41	65	7	0.07	1	44.73	3.23	31.65	3.92
Brownsville_TN	85	43	64	5	0.00	0	44.36	2.95	32.80	5.19
Covington	84	44	64	6	0.00	0	39.11	-1.51	27.50	0.56
Dyersburg	86	43	65	7	0.00	0	25.53	-14.05	15.76	-11.00
Huntingdon_Wate	86	41	62	6	0.00	0	34.85	-7.66	24.28	-4.47
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	40	63	6	0.01	1	51.04	9.59	39.72	11.55
Lexington_TN	85	41	63	5	0.02	1	42.07	1.62	28.83	1.57
Martin	86	41	64	7	0.00	0	30.43	-11.65	20.30	-8.54
Memphis_AG	85	44	65	5	0.01	1	43.18	2.71	30.22	3.24
Milan	87	39	63	7	0.00	0	48.41	5.23	38.72	9.16
Paris	85	38	60	5	0.06	1	34.72	-6.89	25.77	-2.33
Savannah_6SW	85	39	64	5	0.06	1	48.02	3.33	32.80	3.57
Selmer	85	36	62	5	0.00	0	44.08	0.10	30.13	1.39
Union_City	83	36	60	4	0.00	0	31.03	-10.12	18.99	-8.98
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	84	36	63	7	0.00	0	35.22	-4.93	28.20	1.70
Cookeville	81	33	57	2	0.00	0	45.40	-0.21	30.35	-0.23
Crossville_AP	76	36	60	7	0.02	1	38.81	-5.69	25.75	-3.73
Dickson_AG	85	36	60	4	0.74	3	46.55	3.76	34.70	5.92
Dover_1W	83	39	61	6	0.00	0	36.72	-5.13	28.60	0.65
Fayetteville_TN	83	39	62	6	0.00	0	34.31	-8.61	19.51	-8.13
Jamestown	78	33	55	2	0.07	1	43.01	-1.31	29.23	-1.25
Kingston_Spring	83	35	59	4	0.07	1	44.21	2.90	33.47	6.13
Lawrenceburg_Fl	81	38	60	5	0.09	1	45.52	1.07	28.71	0.08
Lewisburg	83	33	60	5	0.00	0	37.50	-6.37	25.47	-3.82
Linden	83	37	61	6	0.04	1	43.58	-0.21	32.62	3.82
Livingston_WLIV	82	33	57	2	0.06	1	45.52	3.14	30.70	1.84
Murfreesboro_5N	83	33	59	3	0.00	0	46.76	3.89	33.95	4.86
Nashville_Metro	83	40	64	6	0.05	1	49.76	11.85	39.34	13.67
Oneida	77	31	54	2	0.08	1	47.41	2.92	35.29	4.67
Portland_TN	83	40	60	6	0.00	0	29.98	-11.08	24.89	-2.87
Pulaski_Water_P	82	34	59	0	0.00	0	36.81	-7.12	22.76	-5.78
Shelbyville	82	35	61	4	0.00	0	39.24	-4.80	26.60	-2.56
Sparta_TN	80	32	57	2	0.00	0	39.37	-4.83	21.18	-8.45
Springfield	84	36	60	5	0.01	1	38.22	-1.26	27.57	0.96
Springhill	85	33	59	4	0.00	0	38.40	-5.32	25.07	-4.04
Tulahoma	81	40	63	6	0.11	2	41.14	-4.06	26.58	-2.65
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	83	40	62	4	0.12	1	30.30	-12.60	16.94	-10.23
Cleveland_6NNE	80	39	59	3	0.06	2	36.85	-7.21	22.60	-5.90
Dayton	79	39	58	2	0.10	1	36.55	-8.37	22.05	-6.85
Erwin_1W	74	34	54	2	0.45	2	37.09	-3.44	29.59	0.57
Gatlinburg_2SW	77	35	55	2	0.27	2	41.44	-5.15	30.52	-2.13
Greeneville	77	32	54	0	0.46	2	30.32	-5.15	23.00	-1.78
Kingston_AG	79	39	58	5	0.14	1	42.02	-4.77	27.69	-3.02
Knoxville_AP	78	38	60	5	0.20	1	33.60	-4.57	21.57	-3.28
Newcomb	79	32	55	4	0.07	1	40.28	-4.21	28.98	-1.64
Norris_4NE	76	35	55	1	0.20	1	53.58	11.10	39.43	10.84
Tri-City_RGNL_A	75	34	56	2	0.29	2	28.21	-5.62	20.24	-3.22

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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